

Wills

Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
TO THE
Rural District Council
of Amesbury.

For the Year ending Dec. 31st, 1913.

REPORT.

SHREWTON, WILTS,

March 9th, 1914.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year ending 1913.

During the year, 275 births were registered, viz.:—139 males and 136 females, and during the same period, 89 deaths were registered, but 15 of these were non-residents, which being deducted, leaves a total of 74, but to this number must be added the deaths of 11 inhabitants which occurred beyond the District, thus making the nett total for the District, 85. The birth-rate per 1,000 of the population (estimated by the census of 1911 to be 11,158) is 24·6, as against 26·1 for the year 1912. The death-rate for the year, after correction, is 7·0 per 1,000, as against 10·8 for 1912. This is the lowest death-rate recorded for many years.

In the annexed tables will be found the estimated population for the past 5 years, also the birth- and death-rates, with those of deaths under one year of age. Of the 85 deaths registered, there were 10 over 60, 24 over 70, and 7 over 80 years of age. There were 12 deaths of infants under one year of age, making the infant mortality 43·6 per 1,000 births registered, as against 82·1 for 1912.

Four deaths occurred from the principal Zymotic Diseases, viz.:—3 from Measles, one from Whooping Cough. One death occurred from Influenza, 3 from other Tuberculous Diseases, 8 from Cancer, as against 12 for the preceeding year, making a slight decrease from this terrible disease. Fourteen deaths occurred from Heart disease, 3 from Bronchitis, 3 from Pneumonia, 2 from Cirrhosis of the Liver, 2 from Bright's Disease, 8 from Congenital Debility, including Premature Birth, 3 deaths from violence, 1 Suicide, and from all other causes, 33.

Twenty-four cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year, which includes 7 cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs. These cases all received home treatment, viz.:—extra food, such as milk, eggs, etc. A Tuberculosis Dispensary has

been opened by the County Council in Salisbury, and is available for treatment for insured and uninsured persons. One case of Diphtheria notified occurred at Durrington. It was a mild case, and the disease did not spread. I cannot attribute it to any sanitary defect, as the cottage and surrounding premises were clean and well kept.

Three cases of Erysipelas were notified. One case occurred at Allington, one at Rollestone, and one at Maddington, all of a mild type, and the disease did not spread.

Twelve cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. Seven of these occurred at Figheldean. The disease was imported into the village by a girl visitor from Dorchester, staying at a dairy farm. The case was not diagnosed as one of Scarlet Fever, until the child was found to be in a peeling condition. This undoubtedly was the direct cause of the outbreak. The patient was removed to the Isolation Hospital, and the sale of milk from the dairy was stopped. The other cases, with one exception, were all removed to the Isolation Hospital. The infected houses were all disinfected, and those belonging to the War Office were disinfected by their own Sanitary Inspector. No further cases were notified. Owing to this outbreak the School was closed for 6 weeks. Two cases of Scarlet Fever also occurred at Porton, one at Idmiston, one at Durrington. They were all removed to the Isolation Hospital. One case occurred at Amesbury, but was isolated at home. All these cases were of a mild type, and probably of sporadic origin. All precautions being taken, the disease did not spread.

One case of suspected Enteric Fever was notified, but the blood re-action proving negative, the notification was withdrawn.

One case of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis was notified. The case did not prove fatal. In all cases of infectious diseases the houses and cottages were disinfected, and all precautions were taken, as far as possible, to prevent the spread of diseases. The Isolation Hospital is a great factor in stamping out infectious epidemics.

The Durrington School was closed in June for 14 days owing to the prevalence of whooping cough.

There were 14 samples of water analysed during the year, one being condemned as unfit for use. There were 8 wells sunk, 17 cleansed and repaired.

The Housing and Town Planning Act has continued. Four hundred and forty-six visits of inspection were made;

103 houses made fit for habitation; 46 cleansed and lime-washed; 2 closed as unfit for habitation. No closing orders were issued. Twelve new houses have been built during the year. A block of 12 houses is in course of erection at Durrington and 3 at Shrewton, but I understand the rents of these houses will be more than the ordinary agricultural labourer can afford to pay. A bake-house is being built at Figheldean.

Slaughter houses, Bake-houses, Dairies and Cow-sheds have been inspected and found fairly satisfactory.

The streams and water courses are in good order, the water supply being plentiful throughout the District, but I should like to see a Public Water Supply carried out for Amesbury and Durrington, as the population is increasing in these two Parishes, more especially at Durrington where no drainage system is carried out, so the wells are more liable to contaminations from surface water and its many impurities.

The Burial Grounds are in good order,

The provisions of the Midwives' Act are carried out under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

My thanks are due to Mr. Huxham for the careful way he has carried out his duties of inspection and disinfection. I append a summary of the work done in his department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES EDDOWES,

Medical Officer of Health.

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Extract from the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. (September 2nd.)

ARTICLE V.—The Medical Officer of Health shall include in his Annual Report information and particulars in tabular form in regard to :—

The number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909.	446
The number of dwelling houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
The number of Closing Orders made	0
The number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders	103
The number of dwelling houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation, and	0
The general character of the defects found to exist	Bad ventilation, bad roofs, bad lighting, want of space, damp flooring, bad sanitary surroundings.

He shall also include any other information and particulars which he may consider desirable in regard to the work of inspection under the said Section.

(Signed) CHARLES EDDOWES,
Medical Officer of Health.

WILTS COUNTY COUNCIL.

Table of Information required under the provisions of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, for the period 1st January, 1913, to 31st December, 1913.

Total number of houses reported to Council as dangerous or unfit for occupation	...	8
Total number of houses which have been actually closed without service of Formal Closing Orders under Sec. 17	... ..	2
Total number of houses in respect to which Closing Orders have been served	...	0
Total number of houses actually closed under such Orders	... ..	0
Total number of houses that have been rendered fit for occupation after service of Closing Orders	... ..	0
Total number of houses that have been rendered fit for occupation after Informal Notices	...	103
Total number of houses where Closing Orders have become operative, and are still awaiting repairs	... ..	0
Total number of houses for which "demolition" orders have been issued	... ..	0
Total number of houses actually "demolished" with or without demolition orders	...	1
Total number of houses suitable for occupation by the Working Classes which have been completed and ready for occupation, or first occupied, since 1st January, 1913, to 31st December, 1913	... ..	12
Total number of houses now in course of erection, but not completed on 31st December, 1913		5

(Signed) JOHN HUXHAM,
Amesbury Rural District Council.

RURAL DISTRICT OF AMESBURY.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—JOHN T. HUXHAM, Amesbury.

Whether Whole Time devoted to Duties of Sanitary Inspector or not? No.

What other Appointments held? Road Surveyor.

Date of last Re-appointment. Sept. 17th, 1913.

Summary of Work done in Sanitary Inspector's Department.

During the year ending 31st December, 1913.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.

No. of Cases inquired into	...	...	...	15
No. of Houses Disinfected and Cleansed	...	...	...	7
No. of Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	11
Lots of Bedding, Clothing, etc., Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	...	11
Cases of Illegal Exposure reported	...	...	...	1

Houses.

No. erected (if information obtainable)	...	...	...	12
No. made fit for Habitation	...	...	...	103
No. Closed as unfit for Habitation	2
No. Cleansed and Limewashed	46

Overcrowding.

No. of Cases Abated	19
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House Drains.

No. Laid or Re-laid	15
No. Cleansed, Trapped, and Ventilated	7
No. of Insanitary Lavatories, Sinks, and Urinals rectified	9

Privies and Ashpits.

No. of additional Privies and Ashpits provided	...	...	...	11
No. converted to Pail-Closets	...	...	...	14
No. Repaired	...	...	...	17

Water Supply.

No. of Wells Sunk	...	...	...	8
No. of Wells Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	...	17
No. of Samples taken for Analysis	...	...	...	14
No. of Samples Condemned	...	...	...	1

Dairies and Cowsheds Orders.

Dairymen, Cowkeepers, and Purveyors of Milk.
(*Milk Sellers*).

No. in District	...	...	...	...	31
No. Registered	...	...	...	...	26
No. of Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	42
No. of Inspections during Milking Time	...	...	...	...	14
No. of Premises requiring Whitewashing, Cleansing, etc.	...	...	...	...	8
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	8
No. of Premises with Well Water Supply	...	...	...	...	31
No. from which water analysed	...	...	...	...	2
Good	...	...	...	...	2

Slaughter Houses.

No. Registered or Licensed	...	...	...	...	5
No. Regularly Inspected	...	...	...	...	5
No. Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	...	...	1

Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.

No. under Inspection	...	...	...	...	17
No. Certified for Limewashing by Inspector	...	...	...	...	4
No. of Insanitary Conditions dealt with as Nuisances	4

Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.

No. of Cases of Removal on Notice	5
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Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.

No. of Removals	3
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Clerical Work.

No. of Statutory Notices Served	8
No. of Statutory Notices Complied with	8
No. of Informal Notices Served	...	...	...	...	122
No. of Informal Notices Complied with	...	...	...	...	117
No. of Informal Notices outstanding	...	...	...	...	5

TABLE I.—AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.	Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.		
								Number	Rate.		Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.
1908	9196	300		36.2	112	13.5	11	3	12	40.0	104	12.5
1900	9373	285		34.4	119	14.3	16	2	19	66.6	105	12.6
1910	9551	284		34.3	91	11.0	11	3	9	31.6	83	10.0
1911	11,158	297		26.6	104	9.0	1	13	23	77.4	116	10.3
1912	11,343	292		26.1	115	10.3	10	16	24	82.1	121	10.8
1913	11,524	275		24.6	89	7.0	15	11	12	43.6	85	7.0
Area of District in acres (land and inland water)		63,454		Total Population at all ages				...	...	11,158	{ At Census 1911.	
				Number of inhabited houses				...	...	2,620		
				Average number of persons per house				...	...	4.25		

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913.

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.						Total Cases Notified in each Locality (<i>e.g.</i> Parish or Ward) of the District.			Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					Amesbury.	Orcheston.	Winterbourne.		
		Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.					45 and under 65.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Erysipelas	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...
Scarlet Fever	12	...	2	9	1	...	9	...	3	11	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	...	...	1	1	5	3	2	2	...
Totals ...	24	1	3	11	1	7	14	4	6	11	

Isolation Hospital:—Salisbury and District Joint Isolation Hospital.

TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at Death during the year 1913.

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.		
All causes { Certified Uncertified	82 3	11 1	2 ...	1 ...	4 ...	4 ...	8 1	13 1	39 ...	... ...
Measles	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	5	1
Organic Heart Disease	14	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	9	...
Bronchitis	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Congenital Debility and Mal-formation, including Pro-											
mature Birth	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	33	3	1	...	...	...	3	5	19	9
Totals	85	12	2	1	4	4	9	14	39	12	

TABLE IV.

AMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

Infant Mortality.

1913. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes { Certified Uncertified	4 ...	1 ...	2 ...	1 ...	8 ...	2 ...	1 1	11 1
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Congenital Malformations ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Premature Birth ...	4	1	2	...	7	...	...	7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	2
Totals ...	4	1	2	1	8	2	2	12

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate 269. Illegitimate 6.	Nett Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants 11 illegitimate infants 1

*Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the
Year 1913 for the Rural District of Amesbury,*
on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

(1).—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND
WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES ... (including Factory Laundries)	...	...	...
WORKSHOPS ... (Bakehouses)	17	...	...
Total ...	17	...	...

(4).—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
8 Insanitary conditions dealt with ...	17
Total number of Workshops on Register ...	17

CHARLES EDDOWES,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 10th, 1914.